

GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

January 26, 2007

The Honorable Mike Johanns Secretary of Agriculture 14th Street & Independence, Southwest Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary,

This is to request that you designate Monterey County, in the State of California, a disaster area due to extreme low temperatures and freezing conditions that occurred January 12 - 17, 2007. Though the full effect of the freezing temperatures may not be realized until a later time, current estimates are reflecting more than a 40 percent loss to citrus and avocado crops. The county continues to assess damages to strawberry, wine grapes and vegetable crops.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) requested that the county agricultural commissioner submit a *California County Agricultural Commissioner Disaster Report*, which is enclosed for your review. Preliminary surveys of Monterey County growers indicate agricultural damage/loss estimates exceed \$14 million. This damage will be devastating to affected producers, farm-related businesses and the general economy of the county. If you have any questions or need additional information, your staff may contact OES Director Henry Renteria at (916) 845-8510.

Thank you for your favorable and immediate consideration of this request on behalf of California's farmers and ranchers in dire need of USDA disaster assistance.

Sincerely

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Enclosure

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CALLEGRALA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER DISASTER REPORT

1. County:		2. Date of Disaster: January 12 – 17, 2007		Type and Brief Description of Disaster: Sustained temperatures below treezing				
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	30 to 39%								
	20 to 29%								
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